



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN REPAIR ACTIVITIES IN FORT LAUDERDALE

December 27, 6:30 p.m.

Following is an update on sewer main repair activities on a 16-inch line on NE 5 Street in Victoria Park, a 54-inch line on SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park in Rio Vista, and a 48-inch line in the Himmarshee Canal in Beverly Heights. In addition, below are updates on ongoing cleanup and remediation efforts in the Hector Park area along Ponce de Leon Drive in Rio Vista.

Operations in Victoria Park

- Crews continue to respond to a 16-inch sewer main break on NE 5 Street between NE 16 Avenue and NE 17 Avenue in the Victoria Park neighborhood.
- Vacuum and tanker trucks have removed water from the street.
- Crews began digging around the break area to expose the pipe.
- Excavation work will continue during overnight hours so crews can assess the extent of the damage and begin repair work.
- NE 5 Street between NE 16 Avenue and NE 17 Way is open to local traffic only.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) began cleanup activities in the affected area along NE 5th Street.
- Neighbors in the affected area are reminded to avoid contact with any standing water and any area affected by the wastewater spill. If contact is made, please remember to follow proper hygiene procedures. Wash your hands with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately after contact with wastewater, especially before preparing or eating food. To view a safety tips flyer, please visit <http://bit.ly/2sUvr73>.

Operations in Virginia Young Park

- Crews completed excavation work around the pipe and exposed the damaged area.
- Two cuts were completed on each side of the damaged portion of pipe and it was removed from the ground.
- A new section of pipe is being prepared for installation.
- Crews from Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) continued remediation activities including cleaning and pressure washing streets, sidewalks, and driveways in the affected area.
- Stormwater staff continued to clean catch basins and storm drains in the affected area.
- Virginia Young Park remains closed while repair activities are taking place.
- Neighbors are reminded that the area in and around Virginia Young Park is an active construction zone.
- For the safety of everyone, access to the construction zone is limited to appropriate operational and management personnel.

Operations in the Himmarshee Canal

- During the overnight hours, divers will monitor the valve device around the submerged 48-inch pipe in the Himmarshee Canal to check functionality.

- Divers are ready to make adjustments to the valve device if needed, including installing a support strap to provide added stability.
- Three aerators continued to operate at points along the Himmarshee Canal to help improve water quality.
- Neighbors are reminded that the Himmarshee Canal from S. Federal Highway to the New River remains under a precautionary advisory for recreational water-related activities. Swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, canoeing, or engaging in any water-related activities within the precautionary advisory area should be avoided.
- To view a map of the precautionary advisory area, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

Cleanup and Remediation of Ponce de Leon Drive/Hector Park Area

- CBI conducted cleanup, pressure washing, and deodorizing activities where needed on Ponce de Leon Drive and in the area around Hector Park.
- Stormwater staff inspected tidal valves and cleaned and cleared catch basins and storm drains in the affected area. Should heavy rains arrive, stormwater staff will have additional resources ready to be deployed to address potential flooding issues.
- Hector Park remains closed to the public.
- Equipment and materials continue to be removed from areas in and around Hector Park as part of the cleanup and demobilization effort.

Environmental Activities

- Crews from CBI began conducting air lancing activities today in the Tarpon River to help break down the organic material that was discharged into the waterway.
- 14 aerators continued to operate 24/7 to help improve water quality in the Tarpon River, New River, and Himmarshee Canal.
- Boats continued to patrol the canal system in and around Rio Vista and in the Himmarshee Canal conducting skimming and debris removal on the waterways.

Road Closures in Rio Vista

- Roads in the immediate vicinity of Virginia Young Park are closed including a portion of SE 10 Street east of SE 9 Avenue, as well as a portion of South Rio Vista Boulevard east of SE 9 Avenue.
- SE 9 Avenue is closed from south of the intersection at SE 8 Street to Ponce de Leon Drive.
- There is no access east of SE 9 Avenue at the intersections of SE 9 Street, SE 10 Street, South Rio Vista Boulevard, and the north side of Ponce de Leon Drive.
- Local access for residents of the area will be maintained where needed during the duration of the closure.
- To view a map of the road closures, please visit <http://bit.ly/34W91Q6>.

Safety Tips

- Neighbors in the affected areas are reminded to avoid contact with any standing water.
- If contact is made, please remember to follow proper hygiene procedures. Wash your hands with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately after contact with wastewater, especially before preparing or eating food.
- Be sure to keep all children and pets away from any area affected by the wastewater spill.
- Keep a container or spray bottle outside residential entryways with a 90/10 solution (90% water to 10% household bleach) to clean shoes and other items that may have come into contact with wastewater.

-To view a safety tips flyer, please visit <http://bit.ly/2sUvr73>.

Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities

-A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.

-The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Water-related activities including swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, and canoeing should be avoided within these boundaries.

-To view a map of the precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

For More Information

Neighbors are encouraged to stay up to date by visiting the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov or following the City on social media at:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/FTLCityNews>

Nextdoor - <https://www.nextdoor.com>

Neighbors may also call the City's 24-hour Neighbor Call Center at 954-828-8000.

###